

Amendments to the Specification:

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 6, line 6 to read as follows:

"Such physiologically active substance, phytosphingosine has a notable function, but is so difficult to use for the reason of economics. Because it is very expensive for producing by pure synthetic method. Further, in many cases since stereochemical structures of synthetic sphingolipid are different from those of sphingolipid presented in human, and also for the method with extraction, the origin of synthetic sphingolipid is controversial, its use has been limited. Under these circumstances, the present inventors developed a microbiological process for preparing phytosphingosine in large amount under optimal fermentation conditions (KR Patent No. 221357; US Patent No. 5,958,742; FR Patent No. ~~2871502~~ 2781502), using novel yeast cell which was isolated from parent cell (NRRL Y-1031 (F-60-10)) by means of spore isolation (KR Patent No. 188857; US Patent No. 6,194,196). It was found that stereochemical structures of phytosphingosine obtained by above mentioned method are identical to those of sphingolipid presented in human, thus its industrial applicability has been increased. Accordingly, various derivatives, which have excellent bioactivity, were developed by using mass producible phytosphingosine as a base compound."

Please insert the Abstract page beginning on page 6 into the application as the last page thereof.